

# The Eagle.

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## DOWNFALL OF THE CUCKOOS.

Grover the great may now rub his pudgy fists in ghoulish glee over the fact that the democratic party in the country at large has been knocked into innocuous desuetude. It has been easy enough to see that his fatness has been working with this end in view ever since his second inauguration. Whether he intended to erect from the ruins of the democratic party a party of mugwumps or Cleveland worshippers or not will never be known. What he has succeeded in doing is nothing more nor less than the temporary strengthening of the republican party and in doing this he has succeeded in blocking all useful legislation during the latter half of his term.

On the 4th of next March the democrats will have been in power for two years in all branches of the government except the judicial. After that time they will lose control of both the house and senate. The house will be overwhelmingly republican; while the populists and silver party will hold the balance of power in the senate. The democratic measures that are to be passed during this administration will have to be passed before the 4th of next March for after that time the democrats cannot hope to get a single measure through the house of representatives.

But for Cleveland's attitude on the silver question the democrats might have remained in power in the house until the end of the Cleveland administration. The Chicago platform declared in favor of the free coinage of silver and if the president had acted honestly a free silver bill would have been passed at the extra session of the 53rd congress and this would have assured democratic success in the election which was held last week, in all of the southern and western states. New York might have been lost and possibly New Jersey, but no other democratic state would have been lost in the east and south and there would have been large gains in the west.

If Cleveland did not expect to favor a free coinage law he ought not to have

accepted the nomination on the Chicago platform. In doing so he deceived the people and now the democratic party is suffering by reason of his perfidy. It is true that the most of the representatives who ran to do his bidding have been left at home to consider their errors and no true democrat will express the slightest sorrow at the downfall of these poor deluded cuckoos, but in the general wreck there also went down some good and true democrats, among them Richard P. Bland, the champion of the cause of silver. His defeat is not only regretted by all of the honest democrats in the country, but by most of the honest republicans.

The lesson to be derived from the political landslide is that honesty in politics, as well as in other matters, is the best policy.

## A SUGGESTION.

It might not be a bad idea for the members elect to the next legislature to consider the matter of passing a law changing the length of the terms of the county commissioners in the counties in New Mexico. Under the present law the members of the boards are elected every two years and their terms are two years in length. It sometimes happens that all of the members of a board of county commissioners are new men and that they are not familiar with the details of county affairs. In order to remedy this it might be well to pass a law providing for the election of a majority of the boards every two years instead of all. If the boards were to consist of three members as at present, there could be, at the first election, two members elected for two years and one member for four years and at each succeeding election one member could be elected for four years and one for two years. If the boards were to consist of five members, two could be elected for four years and three for two years, at the first election and at each succeeding election two could be elected for four years and one for two years. In this way there would always be a majority of the board to hold over so that no board could be composed entirely of men unacquainted with the affairs of the county. The plan is worthy of serious consideration at the hands of the members of the next legislature. Substantially the same plan has been in effect in this city as to the election of the members of the city council for some years and it has been found to be better than the old plan of electing all of the councilmen at the same election.

THE United States senate will be democratic until the 4th of next March and for two years from that time no party will be in a majority in that body unless there should be vacancies to fill on ac-

count of the death or resignation of some of the members of that body. As long as the senate is democratic there is little hope for the admission of a territory which has shown that it is republican and might send two republicans to the senate to help the republicans get a majority in that body. The prospects for statehood for New Mexico are not very bright and if such men as Thomas B. Catron are to be advanced to positions of honor and trust in New Mexico, the day of admission may very well be put off indefinitely.

RESIDENTS of New Mexico may as well drop the subject of statehood for the present. The bill will not be passed during the life of this congress nor the next unless a radical departure be made from the long established rule for the admission of territories. It is barely possible that the election of Catron is an indication on the part of the people of the territory that they are not yet ready for statehood. There has always been opposition to statehood on the part of a certain portion of the population of the territory and the vote on delegate last week would seem to indicate that the opposition is stronger than the friends of statehood had been led to suppose.

THE democratic party of New Mexico might have nominated a stronger man than Anthony Joseph for delegate and with a stronger man might have won the fight for delegate. Hon. H. B. Fergusson was THE EAGLE's choice but for good reasons he refused to make the race even after he had been assured that he could have the nomination if he would accept. Two years from now the situation may be different. With such a man as Mr. Fergusson at the head of the democratic legions victory would be certain.

ELECTION returns have been very slow coming in from the different parts of the territory. Although it has been more than a week since the election, it is not yet known what the majority is for delegate to congress. Catron has been elected but by what majority will not be known for some days yet.

THE republicans obtained a plurality in this county for all of their candidates on the legislative ticket. They may thank the populists for this result. Had there been no populist candidates in the field here every republican on the legislative ticket in this county would have been defeated.

LAST Wednesday THE EAGLE conceded the election of Laird, Childers, Bolich and Foster to the republicans on the county ticket. The official count confirmed the result.